plored the possibility of playing the match at a neutral venue but on finding that this was not possible, opted for the match being played in India. As this was a binding obligation related to the promotion of an important activity in the field of sports, the Government of India approved grant of visas to Israeli players and sports officials to enable the match to take place. India's consistent policy of support for the Arab countries and commitment to the Palestinian cause remains unchanged and has in no way been affected by this decision. India's position was explained to Arab and some other concerned Governments. Some of them expressed reservations about the decision. However, it is the Government's assessment that the rationale behind the decision has, by and large, been understood.

Implementation of New Education Policy

362. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the New Education Policy has taken off the ground; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the progress of implementation (State-wise) till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) At a meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education held on 25-26th June, 1987 to review the progress of the implementation of the New Education Policy, 1986, the Board noted with satisfaction that the Central Government had prepared detailed programmes in practically all spheres of priority and the State Governments had set up necessary mechanisms for seriously undertaking implementation of the Policy. It was also agreed that in the coming months, it will be necessary for the Central and State Governments to implement the Policy with much greater vigour and tenacity.

Conversion of railway line between Bangalore and Mysore

363. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the original estimate of the cost structure prepared by the Railway Board regarding the conversion of metre gauge railway line into broad gauge between Bangalore and Mysore;

(b) whether the estimates have been revised; and

(c) when the work of conversion is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rs. 14 crores.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Its completion will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.